## Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 07424

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO, CSCE
SUBJECT: CSCE EXPERTS MEETING ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT
- OF DISPUTES

REFS: (A) STATE 193041, (B) USNATO 6847, (C) USNATO 5437

1. PER REF A, US REP AT AUGUST 2 POLADS MEETING CIRCULATED TEXT OF US RESPONSE TO SWISS ON PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, BRIEFED ON CONVERSATION BETWEEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST AND AMBASSADOR PROBST AND REQUESTED INFORMATION ON COMPOSITION OF ALLIED DELEGATIONS FOR MONTREUX WHEN AVAILABLE. NOTING PREVIOUS STATEMENTS BY SEVERAL POLADS CALLING FOR CONSULTATION IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE ON MONTREUX MEETING BEFORE IT CONVENES (REF B), US REP INDICATED US WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A CONSULTATION.

2. COMMENT. AS INDICATED IN REF B THERE IS INTEREST AMONG ALLIES FOR CONSULTATION IN POLADS WITH EXPERTS ON MONTREUX MEETING. WE DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE FRENCH WOULD TRY TO BLOCK SUCH A CONSULTATION AS THEY DID CONFIDENTIAL.

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UNSUCCESSFULLY IN THE CASE OF THE POLADS MEETING ON THE SCIENTIFIC FORUM (REF C). ADDRESSEES WILL RECALL THAT ON THAT OCCASION FRENCH BACKED DOWN IN FACE OF SOLID ALLIED OPPOSITION; THEY FINALLY ACCEPTED A CONSULTATION ON THE BASIS THAT IT WAS A "REGULAR" POLADS MEETING RATHER THAN A "SPECIAL" ONE. IT WOULD PROBABLY NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO BLOCK SUCH A POLADS CONSULTATION IN ANY

CASE, SINCE OTHER ALLIES COULD HAVE EXERCISED THEIR RIGHT TO RAISE ANY ISSUE THEY WISH IN COMMITTEE, REQUESTED INSCRIPTION OF SCIENTIFIC FORUM ON THE POLADS AGENDA, AND INDICATED THAT THEY PLANNED TO HAVE EXPERTS JOIN THEIR DELEGATIONS FOR DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT. THE FRENCH PROBABLY REALIZE THIS.

3. WE CONCUR WITH DEPARTMENT'S OBSERVATION (REF A) THAT CONSULTATION AT NATO OF MONTREUX DELEGATIONS WOULD BE USEFUL TO EXPOSE EXPERTS TO BROAD POLITICAL ASPECTS OF THEIR WORK. WE ALSO BELIEVE CONSULTATION IS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE TRADITION OF EXPERTS MEETINGS AT NATO ON CSCE, WHICH HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF ALLIANCE WORK ON THIS IMPORTANT EAST-WEST ISSUE. WE WOULD SUGGEST PLANNING FOR CONSULTATION DURING FIRST HALF OF OCTOBER SO THAT EXPERTS WOULD HAVE TIME BEFORE OCTOBER 31 MONTREUX MEETING TO DIGEST RESULTS OF EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN POLADS. QUESTION OF SUCH A CONSULTATION COULD BE RAISED IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. WE WOULD ENVISAGE PRIOR INFORMAL CONTACTS AMONG ALLIES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO COORDINATE A UNIFIED APPROACH ON THE ISSUE. GLITMAN

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